3. Prevention, early detection and effective management of micro-nutrient deficiencies and the associated health hazards.

As a Tenth Plan strategy, efforts have to be made to move from untargeted food supplementation to fully operationalising growth monitoring, in order to identify onset undernutrition and initiate appropriate health and nutritional interventions. Another necessary step is to move from treatment of infection when children are brought to the health care centre in prevention, early detection and management of infections through improved access to health care.

Disease pattern of the population of the country

1534. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the disease pattern of the population of the country is ascertained objectively; and

(b) if so, the details of the regional variations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Disease pattern is ascertained objectively through collection of data from extensive studies, surveys nation-wide sentinel surveillance for HIV, disease surveillance programme for communicable diseases and also through various disease control programmes.

Keeping in view the epidemiological situation and pattern of Central assistance under the programme, the country is divided into three major divisions for assessing the malaria situation. North-Eastern States (100% Central assistance) contribute to 10% of malaria cases. Selected tribal predominant States *viz.*, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Orissa (which receive additional inputs in 100 selected districts under EMCP) contribute 67% and the remaining country (where 50% Central assistance is given) account for the balance, 23%. The prevalence of leprosy is high in Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, U.P., Orissa, West Bengal and low in North-Eastern States including Sikkim, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Kerala and Karnataka. This disease is found to have moderate prevalence in Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. The pattern of HIV is heterogeneous in the country. Based on nation-wide sentinel surveillance, HIV has been grouped in three categories. Group I is where HIV

among ante-natal mothers is 1% and above. (Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Nagaland, Manipur, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka), Group II is where HIV among risk population is 5% and above but among ante-natal mothers is less than 1% (Gujarat, Pondicherry and Goa). The remaining States fall in the last category where HIV prevalence among high risk population is less than 5% and among ante-natal mothers is less than 1%. In the case of T.B. and blindness no significant regional variations have been observed.

Government and affiliated Medical Colleges and Registered Institutions in Maharashtra

1535. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government and affiliated Medical Colleges and Registered Institutions for allied Health Sciences for degree/diploma courses in Maharashtra with their intake capacity;

(b) the details regarding the growth of medical education in Maharashtra over the last five years;

(c) the details of plan of action for promotion, development, expansion, upgradation of medical education network/infrastructure in Maharashtra for the next five years; and

(d) the details of major problems identified in medical and allied health education in Maharashtra and steps taken/proposed to resolve them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As per information received from Medical Council of India, Dental Council of India and Pharmacy Council of India there are 34 medical colleges with 3480 MBBS admissions; 16 dental colleges with 1150 BDS admissions; 67 institutions offering diploma and 33 institutions offering degree course in Pharmacy in the State of Maharashtra. Besides, as per information received from Government of Maharashtra there are 113 other medical and allied Health Sciences institutions offering various degree and diploma courses.

(b) to (d) According to Government of Maharashtra, the admission capacity in MBBS and BDS courses have been increased by 150 and 240 seats respectively in the past five years. The State Government have proposal to start three new medical colleges in the State. No specific major problem in the field of Medical education has been brought to the notice of Central Government.